# West Des Moines 2012 DirectionFinder® Survey Findings

Presented by

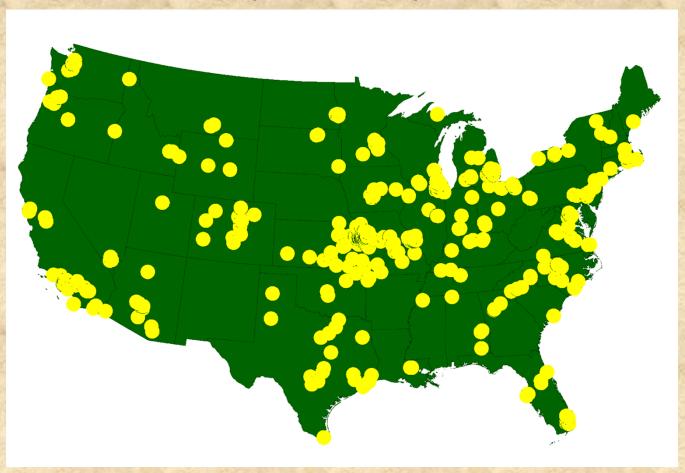
ETC Institute



November 12, 2012

### ETC Institute: A National Leader in Market Research for Local Governmental Organizations

...helping city and county governments gather and use survey data to enhance organizational performance for 30 years



More than 1,350,000 Persons Surveyed for more than 500 cities and counties in 48 States

### Agenda

- Purpose and Methodology
- Bottom Line Upfront
- Major Findings
- Conclusions
- Questions

### Purpose

- To objectively assess resident satisfaction with the delivery of City services
- To measure trends over time
- To gather input from residents to help set community priorities
- To compare the City's performance to other communities

#### Methodology

#### Survey Description

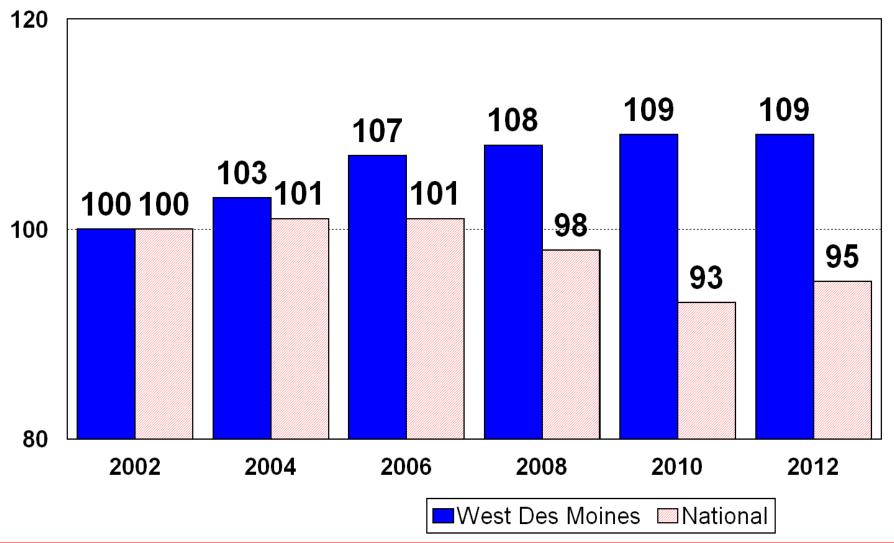
- included many of the questions that were asked in previous years (2002, 2004, 2006, 2008 and 2010)
- Method of Administration
  - By phone to a randomly selected sample of households (in both English and Spanish)
  - Actual number of completed surveys was 400
  - Sample included households with traditional land lines and cell phones
  - each survey took approximately 20 minutes to complete
- Margin of error: +/- 5% at the 95% confidence level
- Benchmarking comparisons to other communities
- The home address of respondents was geocoded
- Good distribution of all demographic groups in comparison to the most recent Census estimates

### Bottom Line Up Front

- West Des Moines is Moving in the Right Direction
  - 58 of 65 areas have improved or stayed the same since 2002
- West Des Moines Is Setting the Standard for the Delivery of City Services
  - WDM ranked above the national average in all 49 comparative factors that were assessed on the survey
  - WDM ranked #1 in 21 comparative factors among medium size communities with a population of 50,000 to 200,000
- ☐ City's goal over the next two years should be to sustain high levels of performance in areas that were most important to residents

### Overall Satisfaction Index 2002 thru 2012

derived from the mean overall satisfaction rating provided by residents Year 2002=100



#### **LONG-TERM Increases**

#### Since 2002

- □ 58 of 65 areas have improved or stayed the same since 2002
- ☐ Of these, the following are the most significant
  - > +24% Flow of traffic and congestion management
  - +16% City's youth recreation programs
  - +16% Yard waste collection
  - > +15% City's senior citizen recreation programs
  - > +15% Quality of City's web site
  - > +14% City's special events programs
  - +13% Outdoor athletic fields
  - > +13% City's adult recreation programs
  - > +12% Emergency medical involvement in community awareness activities
  - > +12% Number and quality of greenway areas
  - > +12% Weekly curbside trash collection
  - > +11% The number of City parks
  - +11% Walking and biking trails in the City
  - > +11% Enforcing the maintenance of business property
  - > +11% Availability of information on City programs and services

#### LONG-TERM Decreases

#### Since 2002

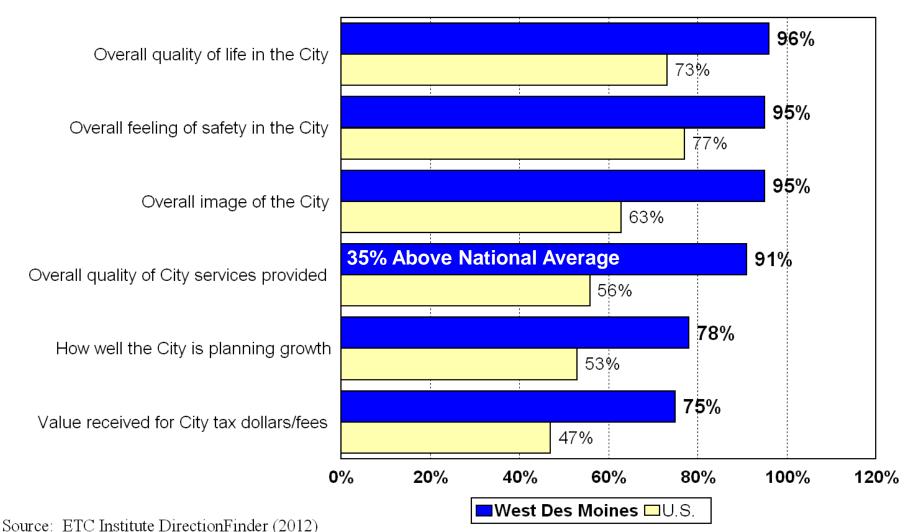
- Only 7 of 65 areas have decreased since 2002
- ☐ Of these, Two are statistically significant reductions (change of 5% or more)
  - > -20% Quality of water delivered to your home
  - > -10% Maintenance/preservation of homes in Valley Junction

### Major Finding #4

Satisfaction Levels in the West Des Moines Are Among the Highest in the Nation

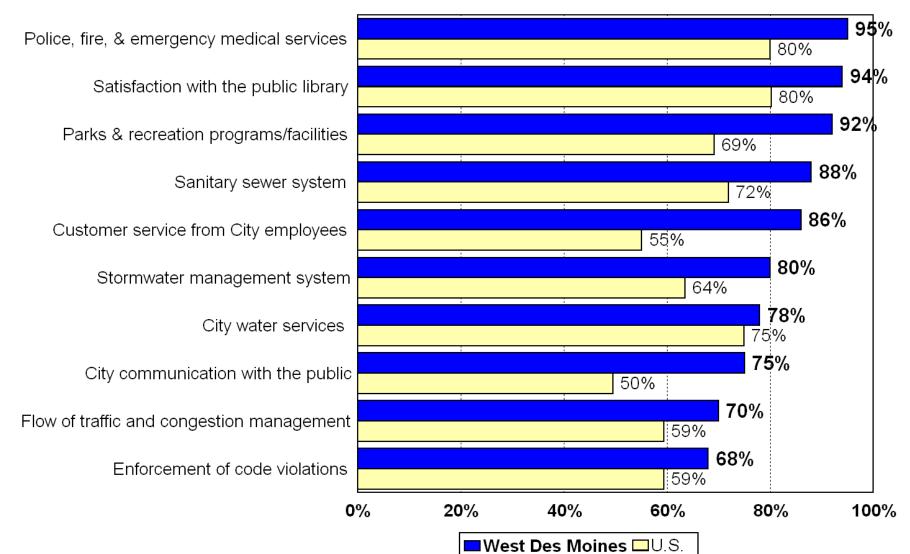
# Satisfaction with Issues that Influence Perceptions of the City West Des Moines vs. the U.S.

by percentage of respondents who rated the item 4 or 5 on a 5-point scale where 5 was "very satisfied" and 1 was "very dissatisfied" (excluding don't knows)



### Overall Satisfaction with Major Categories of City Services West Des Moines vs. the U.S.

by percentage of respondents who rated the item 4 or 5 on a 5-point scale where 5 was "very satisfied" and 1 was "very dissatisfied" (excluding don't knows)

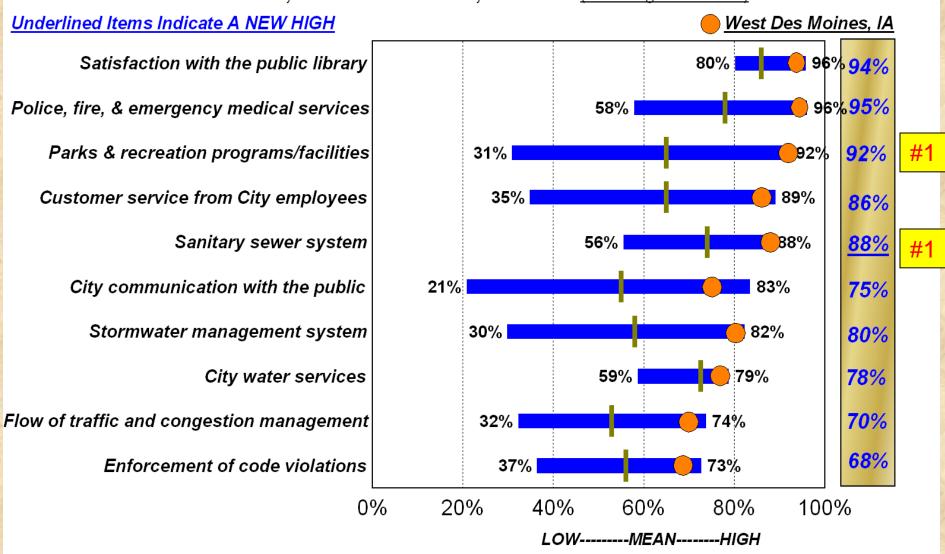


Source: ETC Institute DirectionFinder (2012)

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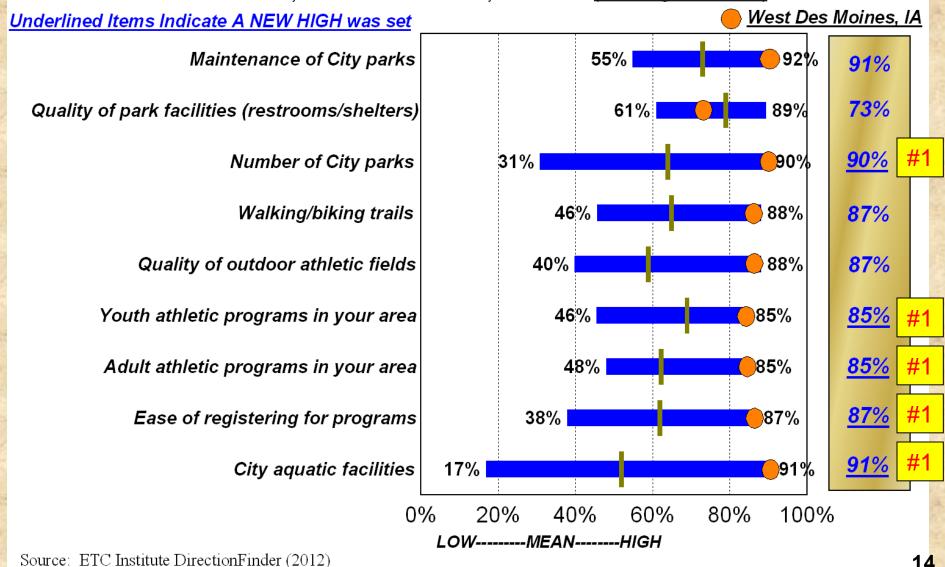
## Overall Satisfaction with Major Categories of Services Provided by Cities - 2012 by percentage of respondents who rated the item 4 or 5 on a 5-point scale

by percentage of respondents who rated the item 4 or 5 on a 5-point scale where 5 was "very satisfied" and 1 was "very dissatisfied" (excluding don't knows)



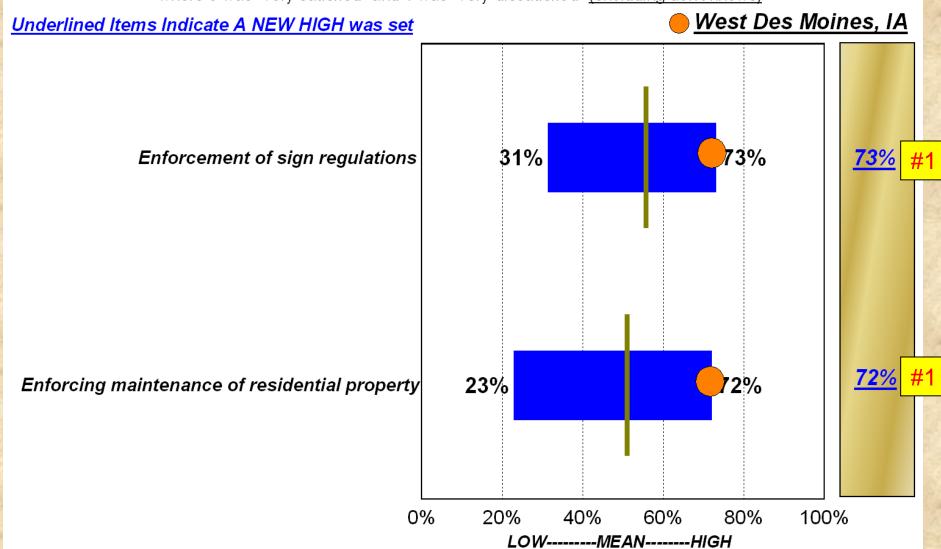
#### Satisfaction with Various Parks and Recreation Services Provided by Cities - 2012

by percentage of respondents who rated the item 4 or 5 on a 5-point scale where 5 was "very satisfied" and 1 was "very dissatisfied" (excluding don't knows)



#### Satisfaction with the Enforcement of Codes and Ordinances Provided by Cities - 2012

by percentage of respondents who rated the item 4 or 5 on a 5-point scale where 5 was "very satisfied" and 1 was "very dissatisfied" (excluding don't knows)

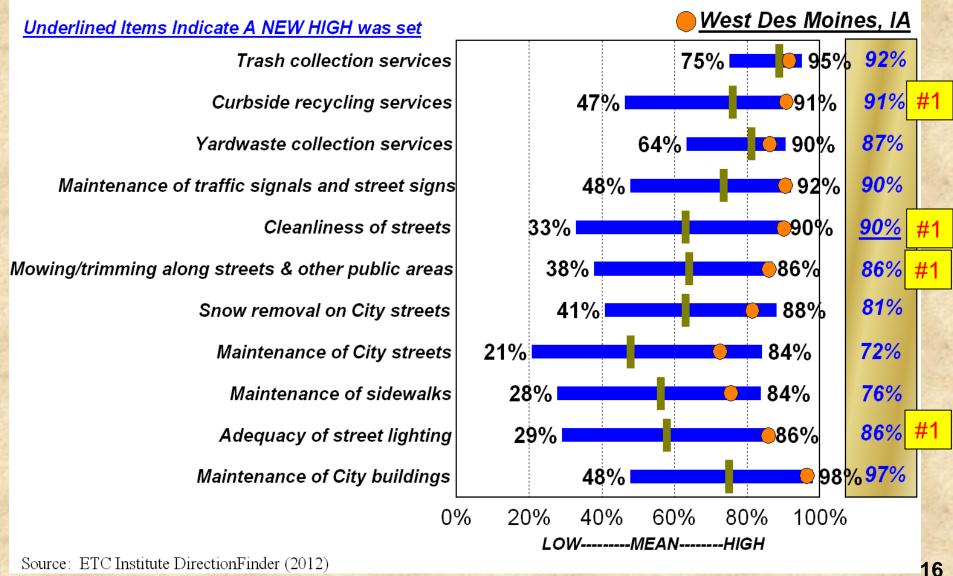


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Source: ETC Institute DirectionFinder (2012)

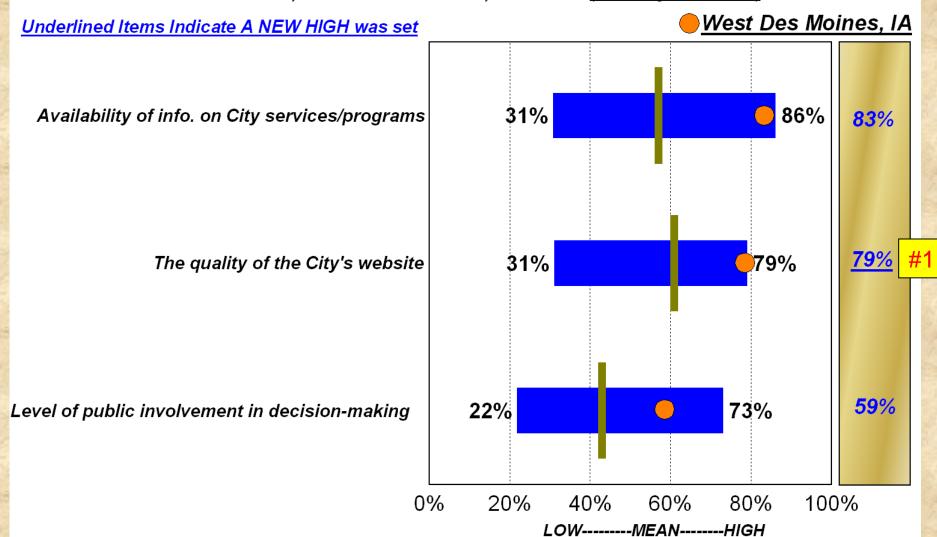
#### Satisfaction with the Maintenance Provided by Cities - 2012

by percentage of respondents who rated the item 4 or 5 on a 5-point scale where 5 was "very satisfied" and 1 was "very dissatisfied" (excluding don't knows)



### Satisfaction with Various Aspects of Communication Provided by Cities - 2012

by percentage of respondents who rated the item 4 or 5 on a 5-point scale where 5 was "very satisfied" and 1 was "very dissatisfied" (excluding don't knows)



Source: ETC Institute DirectionFinder (2012)

### Major Finding #5

#### **Priorities for the Future**

# Importance-Satisfaction Rating West Des Moines, Iowa OVERALL

I-S Analysis Shows That City Resources Are Currently Allocated Very Well

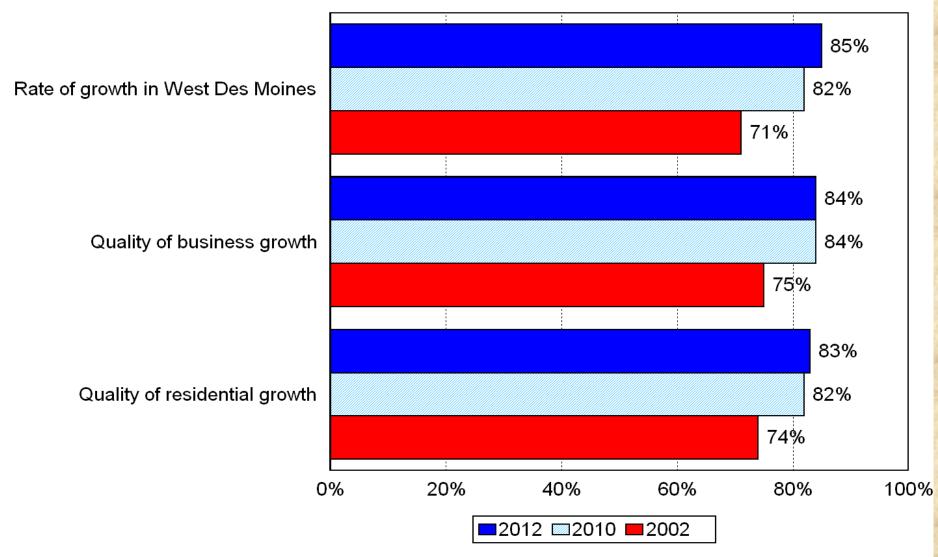
The information presented in the following table should be interpreted with regard to the importance city residents place on various city services and how satisfied they are with each service.

Improvements in those areas with the highest I-S rating will cause the greatest marginal increase in overall satisfaction with city services.

Category of Service	Most Important	Most Important Rank	Satisfaction %	Satisfaction Rank	Importance- Satisfaction Rating	I-S Rating Rank
category or corvice						
Medium Priority (0.010)						
Overall quality of city streets system	33%	1	76%	8	0.0816	1
Flow of traffic/congestion in West Des Moines	27%	2	70%	10	0.0795	2
Overall enforcement of code violations	15%	6	68%	11	0.0469	3
Effectiveness of City communication with public	8%	7	75%	9	0.0211	4
Quality of City water services	21%	4	78%	7	0.0176	5
Quality of City's stormwater management system	6%	8	80%	6	0.0120	6
Quality of police/fire/emergency medical services	24%	3	95%	1	0.0118	7
Quality of parks & recreation, programs/facilities	15%	5	92%	3	0.0114	8
Quality of City's sanitary sewer system	6%	9	88%	4	0.0068	9
Customer service from City employees	4%	11	86%	5	0.0057	10
Maintenance of City streets/buildings	5%	10	93%	2	0.0036	11

#### Satisfaction with Various Aspects of City Growth - 2012, 2010, 2002

by percentage of respondents who rated the item as a 1 to 5 on a 5-point scale (excluding don't knows)



### Summary

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  - WDM ranked above the national average in all 49 comparative factors that were assessed on the survey
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### Questions?

**THANK YOU**